TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FOURTH COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION OF 1106.

(*OFFICIAL REPORT.*)

Wednesday, the 13th Karkatakam 1106/29th July 1931.

The Council reassembled in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, at Eleven-thirty of the Clock the Deputy President presiding.

All the members except Mr. S. Krishna Pillai were present.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Pumping machines.

9. **MR. P. S. MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): (1) Are the Government aware that, some years back, almost all the pumping machines were worked with firewood?

(2) Will they be pleased to state why these steam engines were replaced by motor engines?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (1) Yes.

(2) (*a*) Oil engines are cheaper and smaller than steam engines for the same power.

(*b*) The cost of fuel, taking into account the quantity consumed, is less.

(*c*) Oil is more easily procurable, transported and stored than firewood.

Opening of a District Hospital at Kottarakara.

10. **MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the necessity for a District Hospital at Kottarakara has been brought to their notice; and

(*b*) if so, the nature of the action taken therefor?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government do not consider it necessary to convert the present dispensary at Kottarakara into a hospital at present as there are two well-equipped hospitals at Quilon. The Administrative Board, Medical Services, reports that there is sufficient accommodation for emergent cases in the present dispensary building.

G. P.T. 2911. 306. 26-2-'07.

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MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): In regard to the answer to part (*b*) of the question, am I to understand that the Government do not consider it necessary to have a hospital at Kottarakara because there is sufficient accommodation in the Hospitals at Quilon?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, also because there is sufficient accommodation in the dispensary at Kottarakara.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): When the member says that there is sufficient accommodation in the Hospitals at Quilon, does he mean the buildings [recently constructed and] attached to the District Hospital, Quilon?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): I am only saying that there are two well-equipped hospitals at Quilon. That is all.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I know from the member whether the new buildings have been thrown open to patients?

MR. P. N KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): It will be thrown open.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): I would like to know when the buildings will be thrown open to patients?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): We are making arrangements for the purpose. I cannot definitely say when the buildings will be thrown open.

Teaching of Arabic and Koran in schools.

11. MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): (1) Are the Government aware;

(*a*) that the teaching of Arabic and Koran has been introduced in schools after a special investigation made by them;

(*b*) that there is a strong complaint among the Muslims that the Education Department does not at all pay enough attention in the matter of Arabic instruction; and

(*c*) that teaching of Koran is only a part of Arabic instruction?

(2) Will they be pleased to state:

(*a*) the time fixed for the teaching of Koran in Elementary Schools; and

(*b*) whether the teaching of Koran is conducted out of school hours in some schools?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) Yes.

(2) (*a*) There are two kinds of teachers for the teaching of Koran in Primary Schools *viz.*, (1) full time Arabic Munshies in certain schools and (2) part time Koran teachers in certain other schools; the time fixed for the former is between 10 A. M. and 4 P. M. and that for the latter between 9 and 10 in the morning and 4 and 5 in the evening.

(*b*) Yes.

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